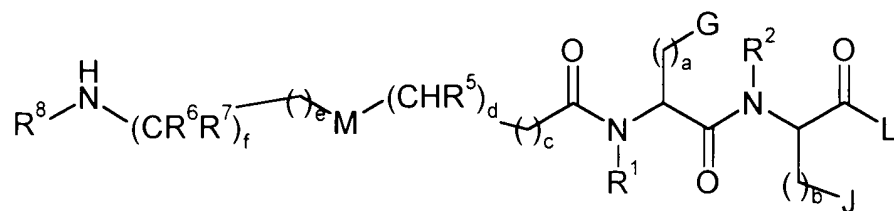


CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (original) A compound of formula I



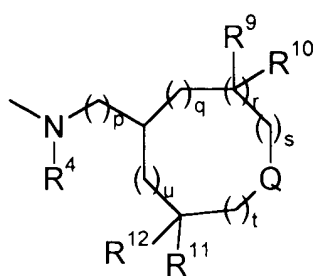
formula I

wherein

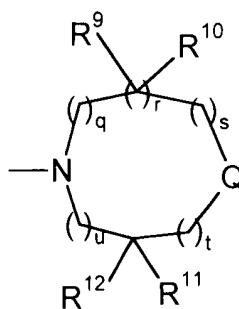
R^1 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl;

R^2 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl;

L is



or



wherein R^4 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

p is 0 or 1;

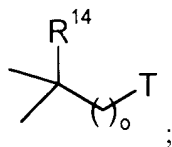
q, s, t, u are independently from each other 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

r is 0 or 1;

the sum $q + r + s + t + u$ is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , and R^{12} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

Q is $>N-R^{13}$ or



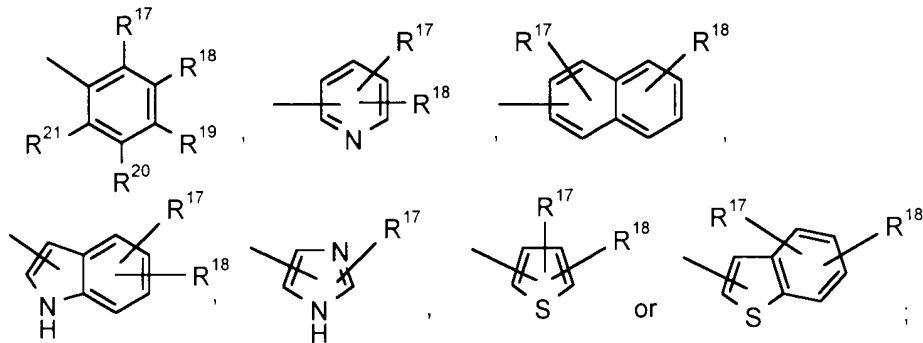
wherein o is 0, 1 or 2;

T is $-N(R^{15})(R^{16})$ or hydroxyl;

R^{13} , R^{15} , and R^{16} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^{14} is hydrogen, aryl or hetaryl;

G is $-O-(CH_2)_k-R^{17}$,

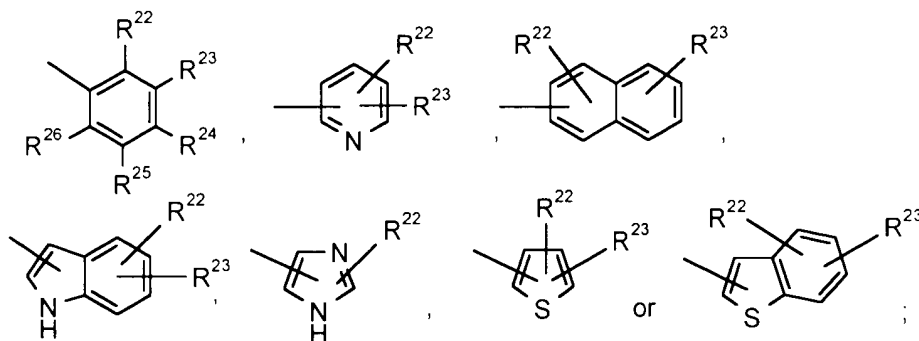


wherein R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} and R^{21} independently from each other are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl,

C_{1-6} -alkyl or C_{1-6} -alkoxy;

k is 0, 1 or 2;

J is $-O-(CH_2)_l-R^{22}$,



wherein R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} and R^{26} independently from each other are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-6} -alkyl or C_{1-6} -alkoxy;

l is 0, 1 or 2;

a is 0, 1, or 2;

b is 0, 1, or 2;

c is 0, 1, or 2;

d is 0 or 1;

e is 0, 1, 2, or 3;

f is 0 or 1;

R^5 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl optionally substituted with one or more hydroxyl, aryl or hetaryl;

R^6 and R^7 are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more halogen, amino, hydroxyl, aryl, or hetaryl;

R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more halogen, amino, hydroxyl, aryl, or hetaryl;

R^6 and R^7 or R^6 and R^8 or R^7 and R^8 may optionally form $-(CH_2)_i-U-(CH_2)_j-$, wherein i and j independently from each other are 1, 2 or 3 and U is -O-, -S-, or a valence bond;

M is arylene, hetarylene, -O-, -S- or $-\text{CR}^{27}=\text{CR}^{28}-$;

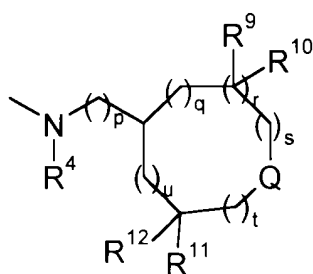
R^{27} and R^{28} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more aryl or hetaryl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 is C_{1-6} -alkyl.

3. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R^2 is C_{1-6} -alkyl.

4. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein L is



wherein R^4 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

p is 0 or 1;

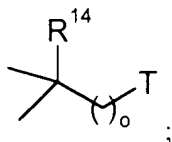
q , s , t , u are independently from each other 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

r is 0 or 1;

the sum $q + r + s + t + u$ is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , and R^{12} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

Q is $>\text{N}-\text{R}^{13}$ or



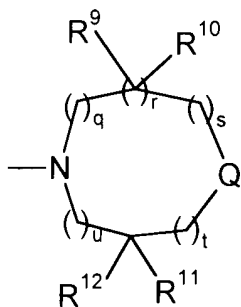
wherein o is 0, 1 or 2;

T is $\text{-N(R}^{15}\text{)(R}^{16}\text{)}$ or hydroxyl;

R^{13} , R^{15} , and R^{16} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; and

R^{14} is hydrogen, aryl or hetaryl.

5. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein L is



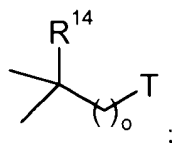
wherein q, s, t, u are independently from each other 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

r is 0 or 1;

the sum $q + r + s + t + u$ is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4;

R^9 , R^{10} , R^{11} , and R^{12} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl;

Q is >N-R^{13} or



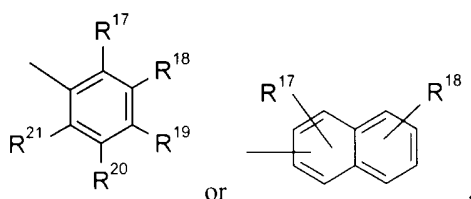
wherein o is 0, 1 or 2;

T is $-N(R^{15})(R^{16})$ or hydroxyl;

R^{13} , R^{15} , and R^{16} are independently from each other hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; and

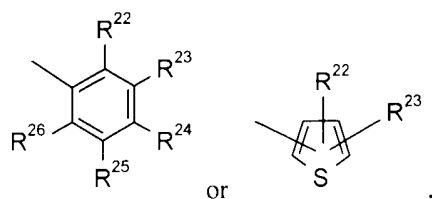
R^{14} is hydrogen, aryl or hetaryl.

6. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein G is



wherein R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} , R^{20} and R^{21} independently from each other are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-6} -alkyl or C_{1-6} -alkoxy.

7. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein J is



wherein R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{25} and R^{26} independently are hydrogen, halogen, aryl, hetaryl, C_{1-6} -alkyl or C_{1-6} -alkoxy.

8. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein M is arylene or

$-CR^{27}=CR^{28}-$, wherein R^{27} and R^{28} independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl, optionally substituted with aryl or hetaryl.

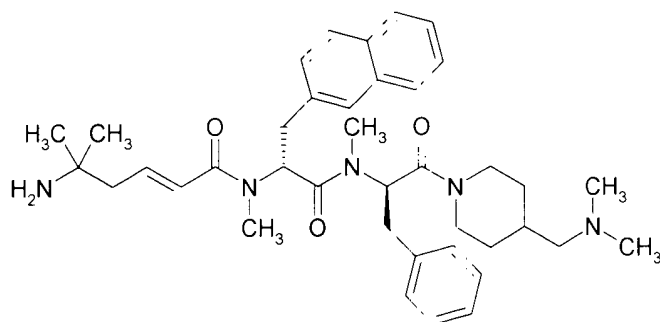
9. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R^6 and R^7 independently from each other are hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl.

10. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R^6 and R^7 form $-(CH_2)_i-U-(CH_2)_j-$, wherein i and j independently from each other are 1, 2 or 3 and U is $-O-$, $-S-$, or a valence bond.

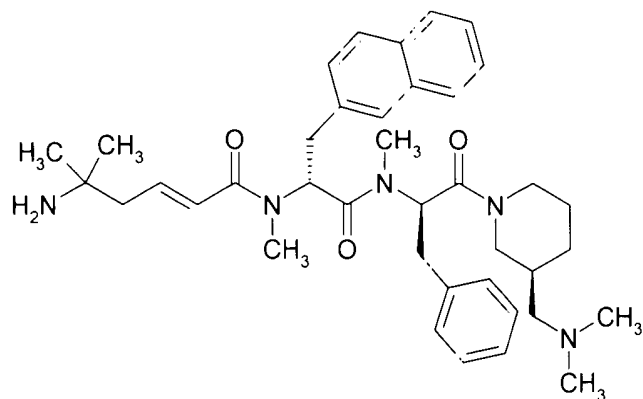
11. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} -alkyl.

12. (original) The compound of claim 1 selected from

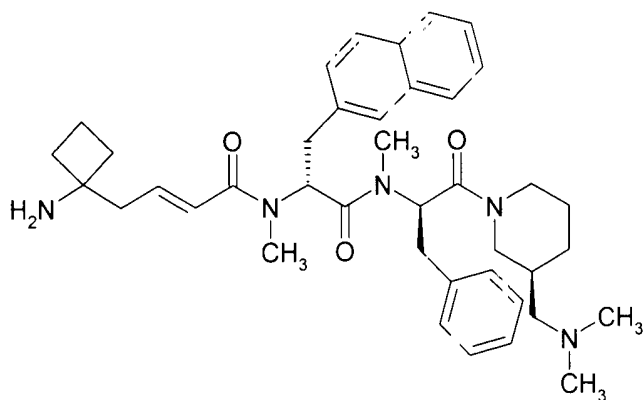
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-((dimethylamino)methyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



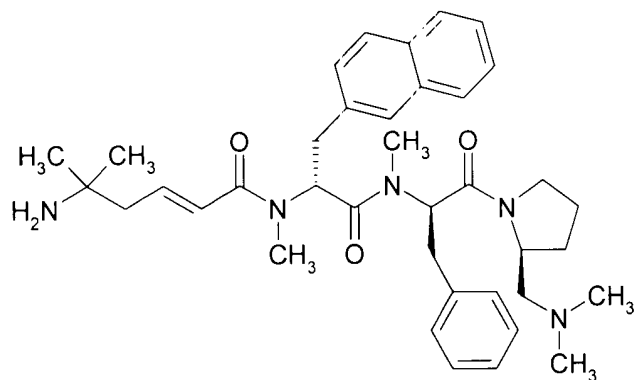
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-((3S)-3-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



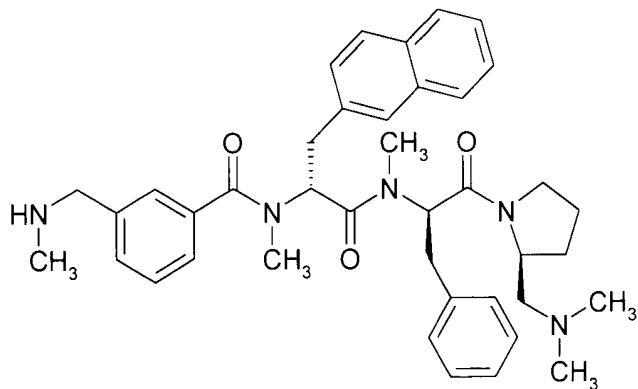
(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-((3S)-3-(dimethylaminomethyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



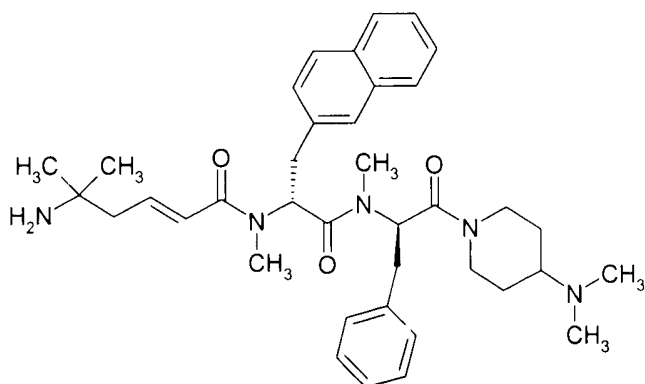
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-((2S)-2-((dimethylamino)methyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



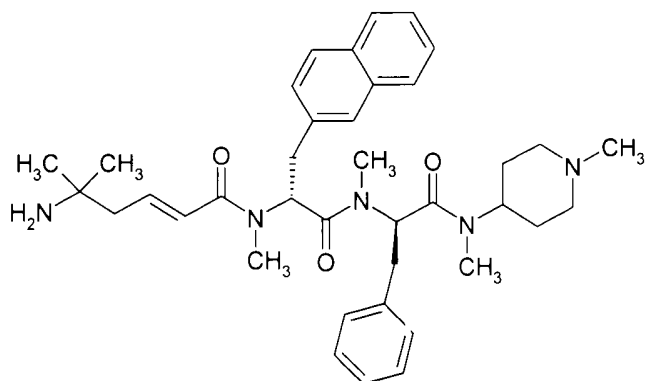
N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-Benzyl-2-((2S)-2-((dimethylamino)methyl)pyrrolidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methyl-3-((methylamino)methyl)benzamide



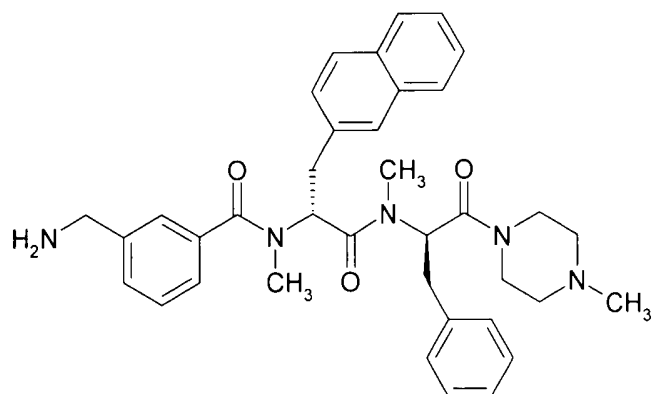
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-(dimethylamino)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide.



(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-methyl-N-[(1R)-1-(N-methyl-N-{(1R)-1-[N-methyl-N-(1-methylpiperidin-4-yl)carbamoyl]-2-phenylethyl}carbamoyl)-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl]amide

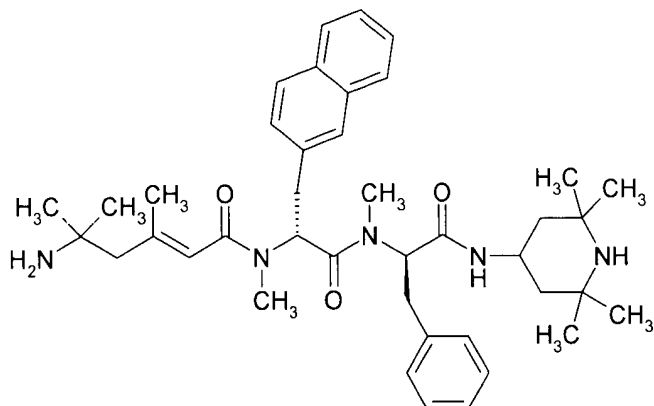


3-Aminomethyl-N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylbenzamide

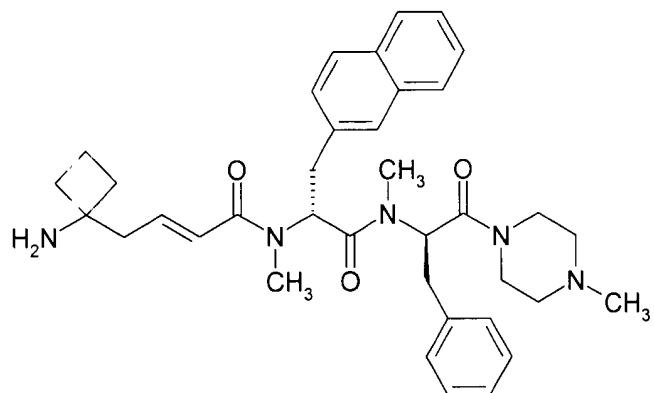


CN(C)C(C)(C)C/C=C/C(=O)N(C)C(=O)[C@H](c1ccc2ccccc12)C(=O)N(C)C(=O)C1Cc2ccccc2N1CN(C)CCN1CCN(C)CC/C=C/C(=O)N(C)C([C@H](c1ccc2ccccc12)c3ccccc3)C(=O)NC(C)(C)Cc4ccccc4CN(C)C(=O)N(C)C(=O)N(C)C(=O)N(C)Cc1ccccc1[C@H](C(=O)N(C)Cc2ccccc2)C(=O)N(C)Cc3ccccc3

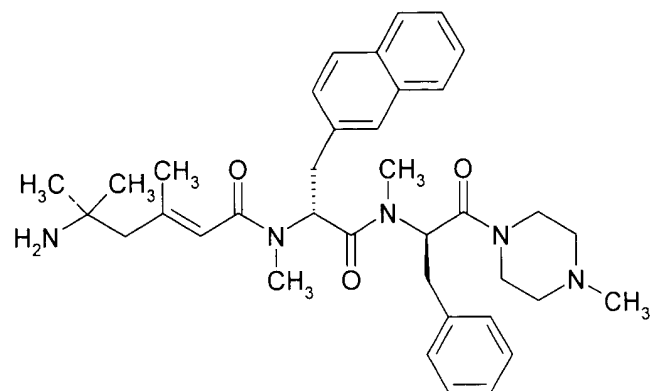
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-methyl-N-((1R)-1-{N-methyl-N-[(1R)-2-phenyl-1-((2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-4-yl)carbamoyl)ethyl]carbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)amide



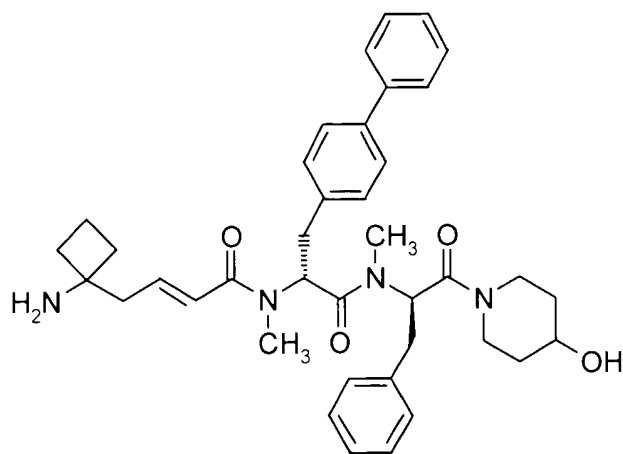
(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



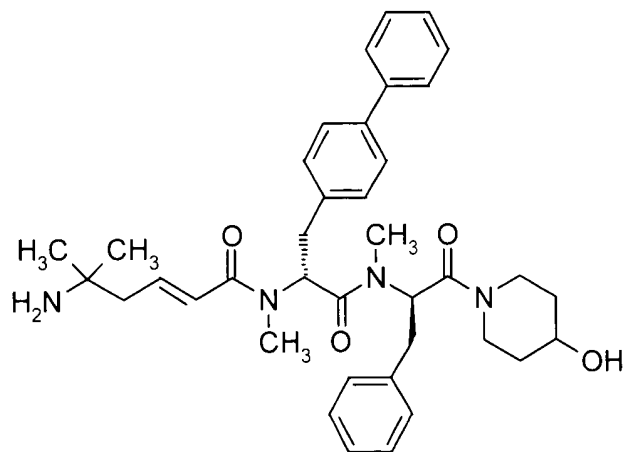
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-methylpiperazin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



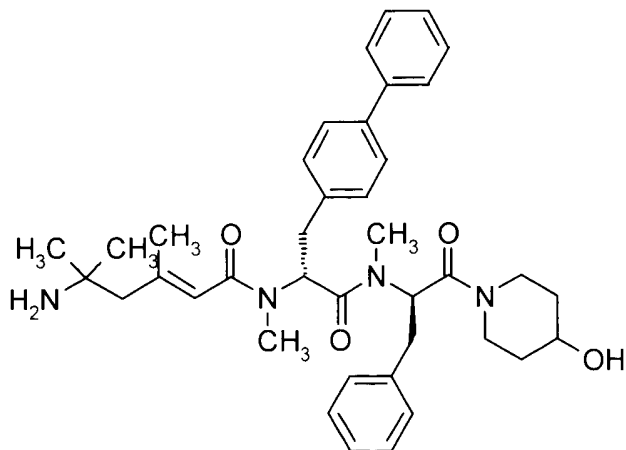
(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



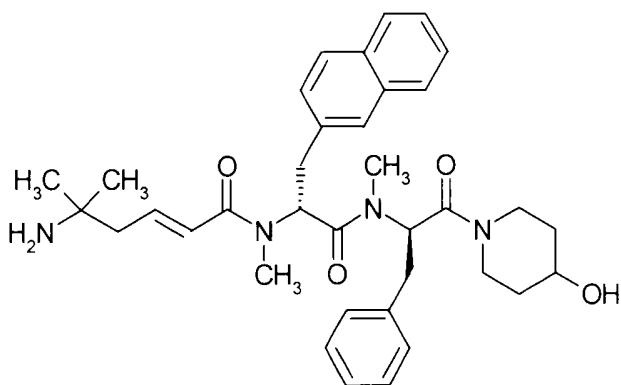
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



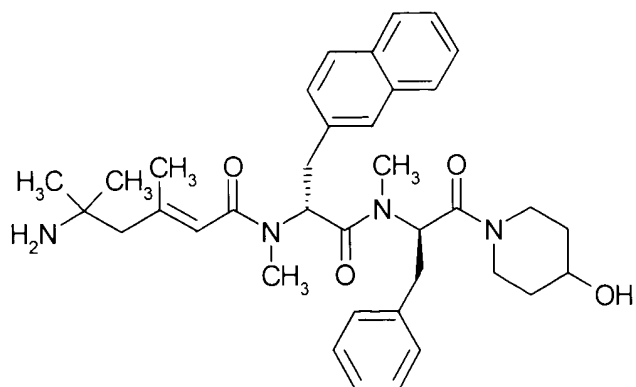
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



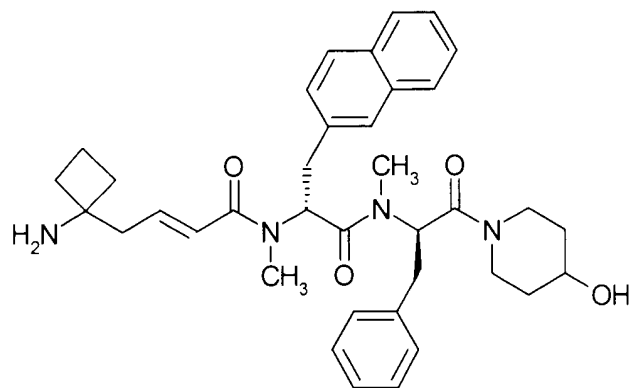
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



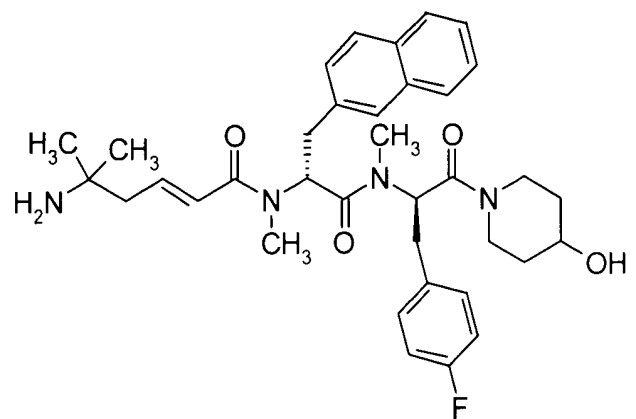
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



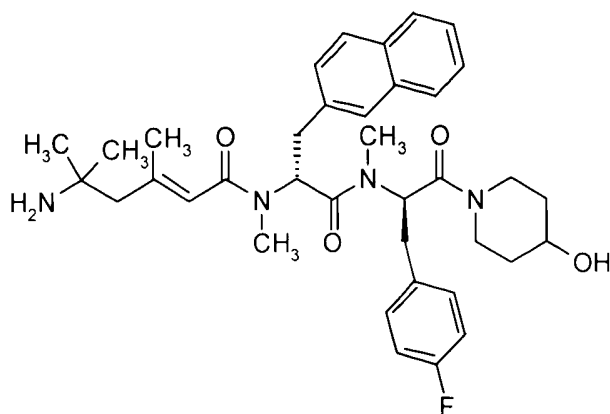
(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



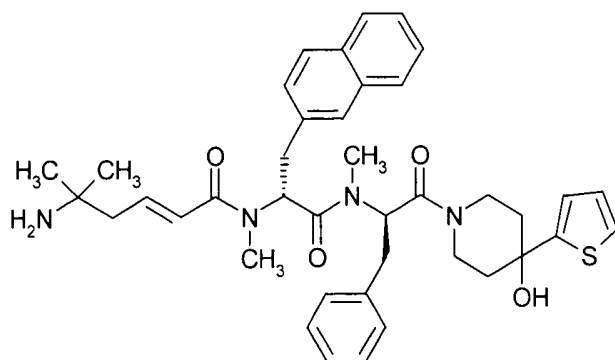
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



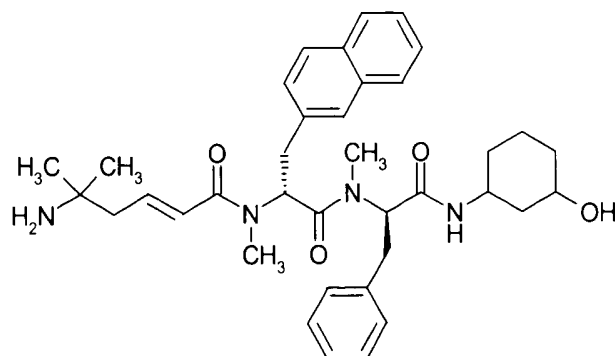
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-(4-fluorobenzyl)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



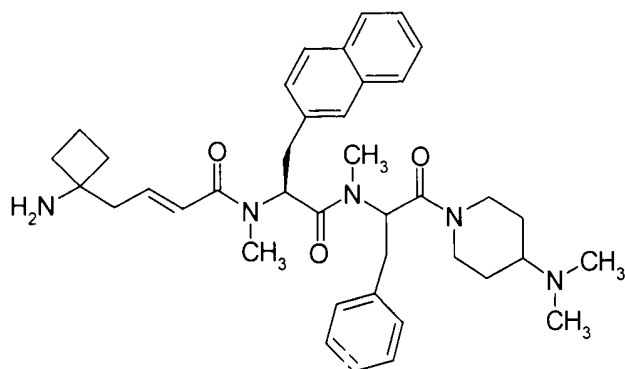
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxy-4-(2-thienyl)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



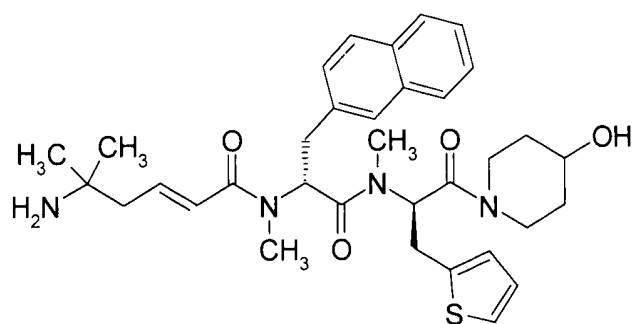
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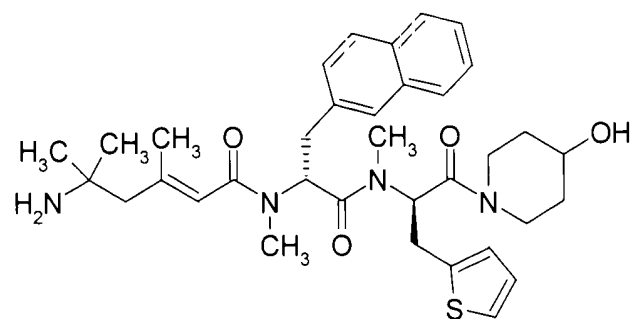
(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-(dimethylamino)piperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



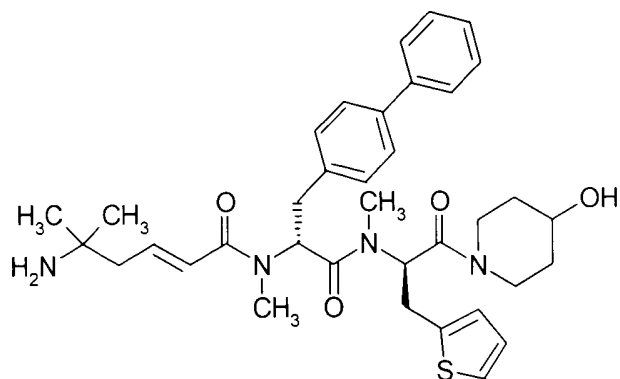
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(2R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



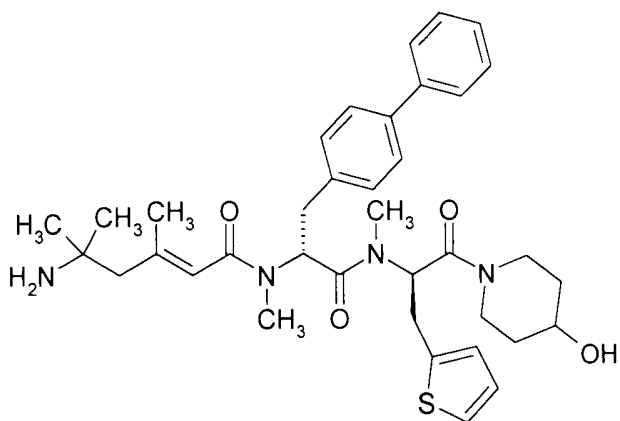
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(2R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(2-naphthyl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



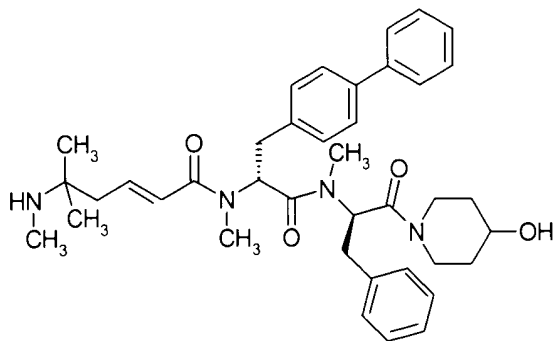
(2E)-5-Amino-5-methylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)-1-{N-[(2R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}ethyl)-N-methylamide



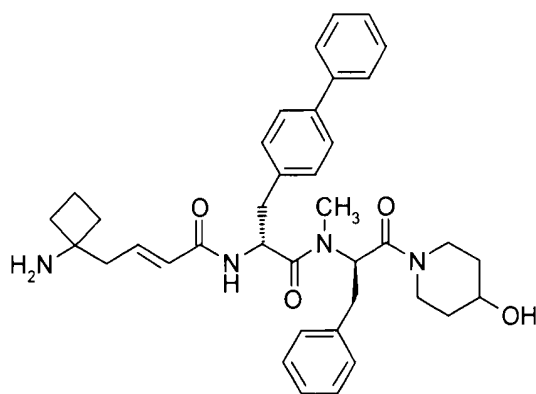
(2E)-5-Amino-3,5-dimethylhex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)-1-{N-[(1R)-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxo-1-((2-thienyl)methyl)ethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}ethyl)-N-methylamide



(2E)-5-Methyl-5-(methylamino)hex-2-enoic acid N-((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)-N-methylamide



(2E)-4-(1-Aminocyclobutyl)but-2-enoic acid ((1R)-1-{N-[(1R)-1-benzyl-2-(4-hydroxypiperidin-1-yl)-2-oxoethyl]-N-methylcarbamoyl}-2-(biphenyl-4-yl)ethyl)amide



and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

13. (withdrawn) A method of treating growth retardation in connection with asthma, the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.
14. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein the compound is a growth hormone secretagogue.
15. (previously amended) A composition comprising, as an active ingredient, a compound of claim 1 together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
16. (withdrawn) A method of stimulating the release of growth hormone from the pituitary of a mammal, the method comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or a composition of claim 15.

17. (withdrawn) A method of treating growth retardation in connection with juvenile rheumatic arthritis or systic fibrosis, the method comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of claim 1.

Claim 18 is cancelled.